Application No.: 10/679,545 Docket No.: 06558/011002

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Currently Amended) A method for developing a sub-sea hydrocarbons field, comprising: liquefying natural gas aboard a vessel using a liquid coolant aboard the vessel to obtain liquefied natural gas;

transporting the liquefied natural gas to an onshore terminal;

re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;

- obtaining a new batch of liquid coolant using energy recovered from the re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;
- de-gasifying hydrocarbons obtained from the sub-sea hydrocarbons field to produce oil and separated gas; and
- conveying the <u>produced</u> <u>separated</u> gas to the vessel and the produced oil to a storage tank on a seabed.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the produced separated gas is conveyed to the vessel via a riser.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising: pre-treating the produced separated gas before liquefying.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising: storing the oil in a storage tank attached to a seabed.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
  liquefying a new batch of natural gas using the new batch of liquid nitrogen aboard the vessel.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein one of a plurality of storage tanks aboard the vessel is empty to receive an initial portion of the liquefied natural gas.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the re-gasifying the liquid natural gas is performed at the onshore terminal.

- 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas produces high pressure gas.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising: sending the high pressure gas to a pipeline.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein transporting the liquefied natural gas to the onshore terminal is performed using the vessel.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A system for developing an oil and gas field, comprising:
  - a vessel configured to liquefy natural gas to obtain liquefied natural gas using liquid nitrogen aboard the vessel;
  - an onshore terminal configured to obtain a new batch of liquid nitrogen using refrigeration recovered from re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas; and
  - a sub-sea separation system configured to de-gasify hydrocarbons to produce oil and separated gas.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, further comprising:
  - a natural gas conveyance system configured to use a riser to convey the gas produced separated from the sub-sea separation system to the vessel; and convey the oil produced from the sub-sea separation system to a sub-sea storage tank.
- 15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising:a natural gas pre-treating facility configured to treat the <u>separated produced</u> gas.
- 16. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising:a power and control buoy configured to provide electric power and control functions for the sub-sea separation system.

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17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for developing a sub-sea hydrocarbons field, comprising:

means for liquefying natural gas aboard a vessel using liquid nitrogen aboard the vessel to obtain liquefied natural gas;

means for transporting the liquefied natural gas to an onshore terminal;

means for re-gasifying the liquefied natural gas;

means for obtaining a new batch of liquid nitrogen using energy recovered from the regasifying the liquefied natural gas;

- a means for de-gasifying hydrocarbons obtained from the sub-sea hydrocarbons field to produce oil and separated gas; and
- a means for conveying the produced gas to the vessel and the produced oil to a storage tank on the seabed.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, comprising:

transporting a new batch of liquid coolant offshore aboard the vessel using a plurality of storage tanks; wherein the new batch of liquid coolant comprises liquid nitrogen.

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